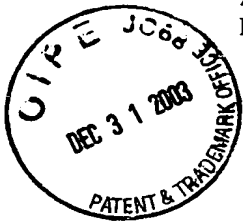




Application No. 10/006,100  
Advisory Action mailed 11/18/03.  
RCE Submission mailed 12/23/2003.



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:	) Docket No: NOVEP015
	)
Robert A. SHEPHERD JR et al.	) Group Art Unit: 1763
	)
Application No: 10/006,100	) Examiner: Zervigon, Rudy
	)
Filed: December 3, 2001	) Date: December 23, 2003
	)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS	)
FOR PLASMA OPTIMIZATION	)
IN WAFER PROCESSING	)
	)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 23, 2003.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Diane Schwanbeck

**AMENDMENT WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED**

**EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Mai Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is in response to an Advisory Action mailed on November 18, 2003. The period for a reply expires no later than six (6) months from the date of the final office action mailed on August 27, 2003. An RCE is being filed along with this response to enable the amendments and remarks to be fully considered. Please enter the following:

Listing of Claims begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 9.